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B I L L

TO

Amend the Law relating to the carrying and Possession of Arms, and for the Preservation of the public Peace in Ireland. A.D. 1881.

**B**E it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 5   1. In a proclaimed district a person shall not carry or have any arms or ammunition save as authorised by the conditions set forth in the proclamation herein-after mentioned.

*Prohibition on having or carrying arms in proclaimed district and search.*

- Any person carrying or having any arms or ammunition in contravention of this Act may be arrested without warrant by any constable or peace officer in order to his being dealt with according to law; and any justice of the peace, constable, or peace officer may search any person whom he may reasonably suspect to be carrying or having arms or ammunition in contravention of this Act.

- 10   The Lord Lieutenant may by warrant direct any person named in such warrant to search in houses, buildings, and places situate in a proclaimed district and specified in the warrant, for any arms or ammunition suspected to be therein in contravention of this Act.

- The person named in such warrant, with such constables and other persons as he calls to his assistance, may, within twenty-one days next after the date of the warrant, at any time between sunrise and sunset, and if need be by force, enter into any house, building, or place specified in such warrant and there execute the warrant. Any arms or ammunition carried, had, or found under circumstances which contravene this Act shall be forfeited to Her Majesty.

2. The Lord Lieutenant, by and with the advice of the Privy Council in Ireland, may from time to time by proclamation declare this Act to be in force within any specified part of Ireland, and this Act shall thereupon after the date specified in the proclamation be in force within such specified part, and any such

*Power as to proclamation in respect to arms and ammunition.*

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specified part of Ireland is in this Act referred to as a "proclaimed district;" and any such proclamation may set forth the conditions and regulations under which the carrying or having of arms or ammunition is authorised, and make provision for the appointment of persons to give effect to the same and the manner of the promulgation thereof. 5

Power as to  
prohibiting  
or regulating  
sale or  
importation  
of arms and  
ammunition.

3. The Lord Lieutenant, by and with the advice of the Privy Council in Ireland, may from time to time make orders for prohibiting or regulating in Ireland the sale or importation of arms and ammunition, and for the appointment of persons for the purpose of giving effect to such orders and providing for the manner of the promulgation thereof. 10

If any person sell or import, or attempt to sell or import, any arms or ammunition in contravention of any such order, such arms and ammunition shall be liable to be forfeited to Her Majesty, and the person so acting shall be guilty of an offence against this Act. 15

Supple-  
mental pro-  
visions.

4. (1.) The Lord Lieutenant, by and with the advice of the Privy Council, may, by a further proclamation or order, from time to time alter or revoke any proclamation or order made by him under this Act. A copy of every proclamation and order under this Act shall be laid before each House of Parliament within fourteen days after the making thereof, if Parliament is then sitting, and if not, then within fourteen days after the next meeting of Parliament. 20

(2.) The Lord Lieutenant may from time to time by order prescribe forms for the purposes of this Act, and any form so prescribed shall be valid in law. 25

(3.) Any warrant or order of the Lord Lieutenant under this Act may be signified under his hand or under the hand of the Chief Secretary or Under Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant. 30

(4.) Every proclamation and order under this Act, and a notice of the promulgation thereof in the manner provided, shall be published in the Dublin Gazette, and the production of a printed copy of the Dublin Gazette purporting to be printed and published by the Queen's authority, and containing the publication of any proclamation, order, or notice under this Act, shall be conclusive evidence of the contents of such proclamation, order, or notice, and of the date thereof, and that the district specified in such proclamation is a proclaimed district within the meaning of this Act, and that the said proclamation or order has been duly promulgated. 35 40

Penalties.

5. Any person acting in contravention of this Act shall be liable if convicted before a court of summary jurisdiction to be imprisoned for

a term not exceeding *three months*, or, at the discretion of the court, to a penalty not exceeding *twenty pounds*. For the purposes of this Act, the court of summary jurisdiction shall, in the police district of Dublin metropolis, be constituted of a divisional justice acting  
5 for the said district, and elsewhere in Ireland shall be constituted of two or more justices of the peace sitting in petty sessions, of whom one shall be a resident magistrate, or of one resident magistrate sitting alone in petty sessions.

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6. In this Act the expression "Lord Lieutenant" means the  
10 Lord Lieutenant of Ireland or other Chief Governor or Governors of Ireland for the time being. Definitions.

The expression "arms," includes any cannon, gun, revolver, pistol, and any description of firearms, also any sword, cutlass, pike, and bayonet, also any part of any arms as so defined.

- 15 The expression "ammunition" includes bullets, gunpowder, nitro-glycerine, dynamite, gun-cotton, and every other explosive substance whether fitted for use with any arms or otherwise.

7. This Act may be cited as the Peace Preservation (Ireland)  
Act, 1881. Short title.

- 20 8. This Act shall continue in force until the first day of June one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six. Continuance of Act.